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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00

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DRAFTED BY ARA:RSURBER
APPROVED BY ARA:WGBOWDLER
S/S:MR. LUERS
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O 201922Z APR 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL ATLANTA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 081120

TOSEC 37

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, AR
SUBJECT: CUBA DENIAL POLICY: SENATOR GURNEY TELEGRAM

SENATOR GURNEY SENT YOU FOLLOWING TELEGRAM APRIL 19:

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED OF THIS GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO PERMIT THE ARGENTINIAN SUBSIDIARIES OF CHRYSLER, FORD AND GENERAL MOTORS TO EXPORT GOODS TO COMMUNIST CUBA. I STRONGLY PROTEST THIS DECISION, AND URGE THAT IT BE RESCINDED IMMEDIATELY. AN EXCEPTION SUCH AS THIS WOULD NOT ONLY BE AS UNCONSCIONABLE REVERSAL OF PAST POLICY, BUT WOULD ALSO BE VIEWED AS TACIT ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET HEGEMONY OVER CUBA AND THE EXPORTATION OF REVOLUTION THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE.

WE HAVE NOTHING TO GAIN, AND EVERYTHING TO LOSE BY TAKING THIS STEP. ALL IT WILL MEAN IS THAT UNITED STATES COMPANIES WILL BE HELPING THE SOVIETS FINANCE THE CONTINUATION OF CASTRO'S STRANGLEHOLD OVER THE CUBAN PEOPLE.
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WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF OTHER NATIONS TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING COMPANIES OPERATING WITHIN THEIR NATION, WE RESERVE THAT SAME RIGHT TO OURSELVES. WE ARE UNDER NO COMPUNCTION TO SUPPLY ASSISTANCE TO FIRMS WHO,

BY DINT OF CIRCUMSTANCE, FIND THEMSELVES OBLIGATED TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE TYRANNICAL CASTRO REGIME.
TOTHIS END, I RECOMMEND THAT YOU REQUEST THAT THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY REFUSE TO WAIVE THE TRADING WITH THE ENEMIES ACT TO PERMIT THIRD NATION SUBSIDIARIES OF AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS TO SUPPLY ASSISTANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SALE. FURTHER, I URGE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE REFUSE TO GRANT A WAIVER TO THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT WITH RESPECT TO SUPPLYING UNITED STATES ORIGIN COMPONENT PARTS FOR THESE VEHICLES.

MR. SECRETARY, OUR NATION'S MIGHT IS THE ONLY WEAPON THAT WE CAN EMPLOY IN A CIVILIZED WORLD TO AID OUR FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES, AND MAINTAIN SECURITY IN OUR LAND. WE MUST NOT PERMIT SELFSERVING INTERESTS, OR FOREIGN POWERS ABROAD, TO DICTATE OUR POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.
I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR ASSISTANCE AND A PROMPT, FAVORABLE RESPONSE.

EDWARD J. GURNEY, UNITED STATES SENATOR

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